

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OGC Has Reviewed

30 April 1954

25X1A

[REDACTED]
St. Elizabeths Hospital
West Side Service
Cherry Ward
Washington, D. C.
[REDACTED]

25X1A

In your letter of 28 April 1954 you ask if the time given you for resigning could be extended to August 22, 1954. I cannot undertake to answer at this time whether we can give you an extension to that date, but I believe you are entitled to some time in which to consider the questions raised in your memorandum forwarded by that letter. Consequently, you will not be required to resign by 30 April in order to avoid an involuntary termination. However, unless you are able to present any new aspects of your case before 30 May, you will be required to submit your resignation by that date. Otherwise, we will have to proceed with termination after that date.

I can understand your difficulty in reaching a decision as to which is the better course of action and give you herewith such advice as I can in this regard. If you are given an involuntary termination, it will be necessary to state the reason therefor on the personnel action paper which, of course, then becomes a permanent part of your record of service with the Government, available to any other Government agency which might consider employing you. Your record, therefore, would show such a prospective employer that you had been considered medically disqualified by this Agency. I feel as a practical matter that little further consideration would be given to your case by any agency to whom this information was made available. If, however, you are to submit a resignation for personal reasons, that information would appear on the personnel action paper. You could in good conscience thereafter tell a prospective employer that you had resigned while hospitalized, making such case for consideration as might be consistent with the facts at that time. Presumably anyone interested in your employment would then check with us. We could discuss the case with them in the light of all circumstances, pointing out that due to our very particular needs we

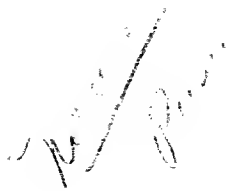
have unusually high standards for employment, including medical standards. I believe it would be fair to say that the conclusion would be that any other agency not having a problem similar to ours would not find precisely the same medical difficulty with your case and might well consider you qualified for duty. I assure you our attitude in such circumstances would be sympathetic to your employment by such other agency in view of your past service with us and the cooperation shown by your resignation. It is obvious, therefore, that it is my belief that submission of a resignation is in your best interest and probably the sooner the better.

I realize this is not an easy decision for you; please feel free to write me further if you have other questions in this regard.

25X1A Very truly yours,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel

A handwritten signature in ink, appearing to read "L. R. Houston".